

## Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /084 W

----- 092289

R 280800Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4666

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0590

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS :PINT,SOCI,SF

SUBJ :SAG ANNOUNCES PART OF CAPE TOWN'S DISTRICT SIX

WILL BE PROCLAIMED FOR COLORED OCCUPANCY

REF : CAPE TOWN'S A-10, 1/20/75

1. SUMMARY: SAG HAS PROCLAIMED AN AREA WITHIN THE CENTER OF CAPE TOWN FOR COLORED OCCUPANCY. THIS WILL ENSURE SEVERAL THOUSAND COLOREDS CONTINUED RESIDENCY THERE AND IN A SMALL WAY COUNTER THE TREND OF LOCATING COLOREDS IN DISTANT SUBURBS. THE WORDING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT, HOWEVER, IS CONFUSING AND IS GENERATING COMMENT THAT IT IS A POLITICAL SLEIGHT OF HAND. END SUMMARY.

2. LATE ON MAY 23 MINISTER OF PLANNING LOOTS ANNOUNCED IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY THAT A PORTION OF DISTRICT SIX WOULD BE PROCLAIMED A COLORED AREA UNDER THE GROUP AREAS ACT. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THAT PART OF DISTRICT SIX PROCLAIMED WHITE IN FEBRUARY 1966 WOULD REMAIN SO.

3. WITH SOME SIGNIFICANT EXCEPTIONS WITHIN THE COLORED COMMUNITY(E.G.DEPUTY LEADER OF LABOR PARTY DAVID CURRY), UNCLASSIFIED

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INITIAL REACTION WAS GENERALLY FAVORABLE WITH A TENDENCY

TO GIVE CONSIDERABLE CREDIT FOR MINISTERS' ANNOUNCEMENT TO  
MAYOR BLOOMBERG OF CAPE TOWN WHO HAS BEEN ON RECORD AS URGING  
GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER 1966 PROCLAMATION AND WHO IS KNOWN  
TO HAVE WORKED OPENLY AND BEHIND SCENES TO ACHIEVE THAT.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS SOME DOUBT THAT AREA TO BE PROCLAIMED  
COLORED IS STRICTLY SPEAKING DISTRICT SIX. IT COMPRISSES  
ZONNEBLOEM COLLEGE,WALMER ESTATE AND TRAFALGAR PARK TO THE  
IMMEDIATE EAST OF WHAT IS COMMONLY UNDER GROUP AREAS ACT  
AND HOUSES ABOUT 20,000 PERSONS, MOSTLY COLORED BUT WITH SOME  
INDIANS AND A FEW WHITES WHO PRESUMABLY WILL NOW HAVE TO MOVE  
OUT. WHILE RELIEVING THOSE COLORED OF FORCED REMOVAL THAT HAS  
BEEN HANGING OVER THEM IT DOES NOTHING TO SETTLE FUTURE OF  
THAT PART OF DISTRICT SIX FROM WHICH COLOREDS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.  
NEITHER DOES IT COMPENSATE FOR THE SUFFERINGS OF THOSE FORMER DISTRICT

SIX INHABITANTS WHO HAVE BEEN MOVED OUT OF THEIR TRADITIONAL  
HOMES, MOSTLY AGAINST THEIR WILL. AS MORE PEOPLE HAVE BECOME  
AWARE OF THE LIMITED NATURE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S 'CONCESSION'  
CRITICAL REACTIONS HAVE INCREASED,RANGING FROM MAYOR BLOOMBERG'S  
STATEMENT OF DISAPPOINTMENT TO MUNICIPAL COUNCILOR WALTERS'  
BRANDING MOVE AS SHODDY POLITICAL TRICK'. PERHAPS THE MOST  
SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION  
THAT COLOREDS HAVE A RIGHT TO OCCUPY RESIDENTIAL AREA WITHIN  
WITHIN THE CENTER OF CAPE TOWN AND MUST NOT ALL BE  
REMOVED TO DISTANT SUBURBS.

GAMON

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**To:** STATE  
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